

## Per Contra

By JOHN BERWICK

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(Any one can see that this story was written by a horrid old bachelor.)

My chum, Henry Burlant, and I courted the girls we married at the same time and married within a week of each other. As soon as we had returned from our wedding trips we met for a supper and a chat.

"Well, Harry," I said, "is your honeymoon over, or is it going to last for ever?"

"I've learned just enough about working in double harness to realize that it requires adroitness to trot smoothly together."

"So have I."

"My wife seems to want to have her own way about every little thing."

"Same here."

"On our wedding trip if I proposed to go fishing she wanted that we should play tennis. If I wished to take an afternoon sleigh she insisted on going to ride."

"Well, what are you going to do about it?"

"I don't know—grin and bear it, I suppose. How are you making out?"

"Well, I don't have exactly the same trouble that you have. My wife is different. If we differ about anything she always argues and argues, and I can't stop her. If I say, 'It's not a matter of any importance; let's stop talking about it,' she says, 'I want to say just one more thing,' and she says it."

"A great many times?"

"Yes."

The next summer my wife went to the country, and I, not being able to get away, stayed at home. I dined frequently with Harry and his wife. At the first dinner I took with them the subject of people keeping pet dogs in the city came up, and I was surprised to hear Harry inveigh against the practice.

"Why, I thought you loved dogs in your bachelor days," I remarked.

"Hate 'em."

"Upon my word! Did you bring about this change, Mrs. Burlant?" I asked.

"Oh, no! I like dogs. I like all animals."

At that moment a little skye terrier ran into the room and jumped up on Harry's lap. Harry ordered him down harshly.

"I want you to come round, Tom," said Harry, "when my wife's sister comes. They're going to make us a visit. I'm looking forward to their coming with a great deal of pleasure. Lovely girls, both of 'em."

"That must be very nice for you, Mrs. Burlant," I remarked.

"Well, I'd like it if we had plenty of room and more servants and all that. Harry's got it into his head that he wants them to come. He thinks it lonely here—no one in the house with him but me. I give him to him to everything, but for once I'm going to have my own way."

I looked at Harry and thought I saw a cunning look in his eyes.

"I suppose how I have my way," he said, addressing me. "My wife has an aunt—dearest old lady you ever met poor woman, hasn't your home. I want her to come here and make a home with us."

"Now, Harry, you're giving an entirely wrong impression. Aunt Maria is old and irritable. She needs to run her own establishment. She would not be happy here at all. No home. Why, she has a very comfortable home—a small flat of five rooms."

"And not a soul in 'em," snarled Harry, "except herself. It must be awful lonely."

When coffee was served Mrs. Burlant left us while we smoked. She had no sooner gone than the skye terrier jumped into his master's lap, and Harry petted him as if he were a spoiled child.

"Why, Harry," I exclaimed, "I thought you hated the little beast!"

"Don't you give me away, old man. If I didn't make believe I hated him he wouldn't be here. You see, I've learned something since I've been married. I keep a sharp lookout, and if I see anything coming I don't like it just yet. Right round on to that side, and the harder I blow for it the more determined Doll is that it shan't come off. She has two old maid sisters that she's been thinking of asking to come for a visit. See the way I headed her off?"

"Oh, that's your game, is it?"

"And the old aunt—if she came here there wouldn't be any use having any vinegar on the table. She'd turn milk sour. She'd bring on a divorce between Doll and me within a week. The first thing I knew one day Doll began to talk about her aunt and how lovely she was living by herself and how much company the old cat would be for her when I was downtown and sometimes when I have to go away on business. I jumped right on to the scheme and swore it should be done at once. Doll doesn't like to be hurried into anything, and this and my being for it together have put her right on to the other side. I tell you I'm a jim dandy of a married man. These fellows who are loaded down with their wife's relations don't know how to keep 'em off. They must begin at home. It's like one of those valves that the more you blow their way the more they shut up."

When my wife came home, the first time we had a disagreement I put in practice Harry's principle. But it didn't work. When I jumped on to her side of the question she jumped on to mine.

Dr. Jowett and Bible History.

The following story of Dr. Jowett was at one time current among the undergraduates at Oxford. It had reached the master's ears that Balliol were not so successful in the examination in "endments of religion" as in the classical schools, so that he determined to call on the next batch of candidates and catechise them himself in Bible history.

He is reported to have said, "what prophet went up to heaven in a chariot of fire?" "Elijah, sir." "It is disapproved that a scholar of this college should be so ignorant. Mr. Jones?" "Elijah, sir."

"Mr. Brown?" "Elijah, sir." At this point the library boy entered, and he struck the undergraduates with shame he was appealed to. "Tell these gentlemen what prophet went up to heaven in a chariot of fire?" "Elijah, sir."

Then ensued a pause and then, "Well, gentlemen, perhaps it was Elijah?"—Cornhill Magazine.

A Slow Government.

During the recent war with Spain a woman visited headquarters at Tampa in search of her husband. As she left she was heard to remark: "Well, if he thinks I'm going to be livin' in this suppose he's mighty mistook! If he's killed he ought to write me say so, and if he's livin' he ought to write me say so. As it is, there is John Jeeves a-settin' around my house day after day, waitin' for me to say the word and me not knowin' whether I'm a widow or just a poor, lonely, forsook wife that needs comfortin'! This here government is about as slow as blue sap in springtime."—Lippincott's.

What She Wanted.

"John—John" whispered Mrs. Gidgley, nudging her husband.

"What is it?" he sleepily asked.

"There's a burglar in the house."

"What do you want me to do—get up and run the risk of being killed?"

"No, but if you find in the morning that somebody has gone through your pockets don't blame me."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription

It is the best of all medicines for the cure of diseases, disorders and weaknesses peculiar to women. It is the only preparation of its kind devised by a regularly graduated physician—an experienced and skilled specialist in the diseases of women.

It is a safe medicine in any condition of the system. THE ONE REMEDY which contains no alcohol and no injurious habit-forming drugs and which creates no craving for such stimulants.

THE ONE REMEDY so good that its makers are not afraid to print its every ingredient on each outside bottle-wrapper and attest to the truthfulness of the same under oath.

It is sold by medicine dealers everywhere, and any dealer who can't get it. Don't take a substitute of unknown composition for this medicine of known composition. No counterfeit is as good as the genuine and the druggist who says something else is "just as good as Dr. Pierce's" is either mistaken or is trying to do you for his own selfish benefit. Such a man is not to be trusted. He is trifling with your most precious possession—your health—may be your life itself. See that you get what you need.

## THIN, NERVOUS, PALE WOMEN

Are in a Condition That Must Be Corrected to Avoid Serious Consequences.

Many women suffer from nervousness, accompanied by loss of weight and pallor, showing that there is a loss of nutrition and that the blood is becoming deficient in quantity or quality. This is a condition that may be followed by serious consequences unless corrected.

To cure the failing nutrition must be arrested, the patient's weight and strength built up and the blood restored to its normal condition. Besides good food, artificial aids to digestion and tonics it is usual to recommend change of climate in such cases.

The one remedy that has cured this condition, strengthened the digestion, toned up the nerves and made the blood pure and rich is that described by Mrs. Perry Howe, of R. F. D. No. 1, Penfield, Monroe Co., N. Y., who says:

"A few years ago I broke down in health because I had worked beyond my strength and endurance. My condition grew worse until I had nervous debility and was sick for a long time. I was thin and weak and could not stand a quick word or the least bit of noise. My stomach pained me a great deal, food did not digest, I was constipated and had awful headaches, which would make me scream from the pain. My face and lips became white, my blood was thin and weak and my face was covered with pimples."

"For two years I doctored but without getting much help. I read about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in a book and after taking three boxes of them, felt better. I continued the treatment and was entirely cured. I wish I could influence every one who is suffering from nervous troubles to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are also recommended for nervous headache, nervous prostration, neuralgia, St. Vitus' dance, partial paralysis and locomotor ataxia.

Every person interested should send today for our free booklet, "Diseases of the Nervous System."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all druggists, or sent, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cents per box; six boxes for \$2.50, by Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

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## TAFT GOING TO NEW YORK

He Will Take Part in Political Conference

GRISCOM AND GOV. HUGHES

Likely to Participate in a Discussion of Candidates—Much Interest in the Speeches to Be Made by the President.

Washington, Feb. 11.—President Taft's visit to New York on Saturday, it is said, will be made the occasion for an important political conference regarding New York state conditions. This conference probably will take place at the home of Lloyd C. Griscom, the new chairman of the New York county Republican committee, where a reception will be tendered the president. Efforts will be made to have Governor Hughes attend the conference, and it is said that the object of the affair is to discuss political candidates for governor. In view of rumors which have gained circulation in financial districts and elsewhere regarding the attitude of the administration, President Taft's speech before the Republican club of New York on Saturday night at the Lincoln day dinner will be followed with unusual interest.

It was said yesterday that the president will say that the Republican party went before the American people in 1908 with certain well-defined pledges in its platform. He will contend that these pledges must be carried out in fact as well as in spirit and that he will do all in his power to see that they are carried out.

Governor Hughes will not be a candidate for re-election. He says that he is too poor. But he will be asked to name the man he thinks best fitted to reorganize the party and become its candidate next fall.

Having disposed of the Ohio situation, President Taft now has his attention directed to New York state. He and independent party men declare he realizes more than anyone else that the Platt machine is doomed and if the Republican party is to be successful in the election this fall there must be a new deal and the policies of Governor Hughes endorsed, at least in part.

At the conference on Saturday, it is expected that a new Republican state chairman, one who has never interfered with any of the factions of the Republican party in the state, will be considered and that it will be decided just when Mr. Woodruff will step down and out as party leader. President Taft believes there is a possibility of the Republicans losing the House this fall in the congressional elections, unless strenuous efforts are made by the party. He is working with the Republican congressional committee to prevent the loss of the House and at his advice the congressional question is also to be considered at this conference.

Mr. Griscom will assume the conference on Saturday, it is reported, that if it becomes necessary Mr. Roosevelt will take the stump this fall for the Republican state ticket, and that one of his reasons for returning home early in June will be so that he can have a finger on the pulse of the party when the campaign opens. Mr. Roosevelt, if the plans of his followers in the first congressional district are carried out, will head the delegation from that district to the state convention, which will meet in September or October.

CHAMORRO HALTED IN HIS MARCH TOWARD NICARAGUA'S CAPITAL.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Feb. 11.—Colonel Gabriel Conrad, chief of artillery on the insurgent forces under General Mena, has returned here, forced to action by a wound received in the fighting near Santa Clara, north of Lake Managua.

General Mena is supporting General Chamorro, whose advance toward the capital is reported to have been temporarily checked. General Chamorro is said to have entrenched himself in the province of Matagalpa.

Details of the recent fighting are reaching here slowly, but it is impossible to send out as yet anything like a complete story of recent events, as the provisions are exercising precaution regarding the circulation of news reports.

NO ILL FEELING.

Recall of Apostolic Delegate to Canada Is Imminent Though.

Rome, Feb. 11.—The Vatican denies that the imminent recall of Mgr. Sbarretti, the apostolic delegate to Canada, is due to any ill feeling of the Canadian episcopate over the postponement of the Eucharistic congress at Montreal.

TO BUILD EMBASSIES ABROAD.

House Committee Favors Plan to Expend \$200,000 Annually.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The house committee of foreign affairs yesterday decided to favorably report the Jordan bill providing for the expenditure annually of a sum not exceeding \$200,000 for the erection of American embassies abroad.

## WOMEN OF MIDDLE AGE

Need Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Brookfield, Mo.—"Two years ago I was unable to do any kind of work and only weighed 118 pounds. My trouble dates back to the time that women may expect nature to bring on them the Change of Life. I got a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and it made me feel much better, and I have continued its use. I am very grateful to you for the good health I am now enjoying."

—Mrs. SARAH LOWMEYER, 414 S. Livingston Street, Brookfield, Mo.

The Change of Life is the most critical period of a woman's existence, and neglect of health at this time invites disease and pain.

Women everywhere should remember that there is no other remedy known to medicine that will so successfully carry women through this trying period as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from native roots and herbs.

For 30 years it has been curing women from the worst forms of female ills—irregularities, displacements, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, and nervous prostration.

If you would like special advice about your case write a confidential letter to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass. Her advice is free, and always helpful.

AN ARREST MADE IN SWOPE CASE

Dr. B. Clarke Hyde of Missouri Formally Charged with Having Caused Death of Col. Thomas Swope.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 11.—Dr. B. Clarke Hyde, whose wife is a niece of the late Col. Thomas Swope, was formally charged in a warrant issued yesterday afternoon by Justice of the Peace at Independence, with having caused the death of Swope by poison.

Hyde was arrested by the office of Marshal Joel Myers, and an hour later gave bond in the sum of \$50,000 before Justice Loar. The hearing is set for February 17.

Two hours prior to the issuance of the warrant, Judge Ralph Lathrop of the criminal court ordered that a special grand jury be convened to examine into the details of the deaths of Thomas Swope, Christian Swope and other members of the Swope family, who died of typhoid fever, including Miss Huntington, who died suddenly in the Swope home.

FIFTY-SIX LAND DEFENDANTS.

Outcome of Alleged Coal Land Frauds in the State of Wyoming.

Lander, Wyo., Feb. 11.—Sixty-four defendants in alleged coal land frauds against the government appeared yesterday before the United States land office in this city, in cases which have been brought by the government for the cancellation of their titles to coal lands which are said to be the most valuable in the state.

The cases involve \$999 acres of land, lying in the mineral district north of Lander, and have been appraised by government experts at \$1,200,000. The government alleges that these lands were filed upon by "dummy" entries for the benefit of the Oel Creek Coal company, and the Northwestern Coal company, which are controlled largely by New York capitalists. The two companies are reported to be associated with the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad.

The cases are commonly known as the "Gelo coal land frauds," as Samuel W. Gelo, George W. Duffey, Rufus P. Ireland and others were alleged to have been instrumental in securing the titles. The cases have been under investigation by federal land agents for three years and various actions have been brought in court. John A. Williams, law examiner of the land office, will hear the cases and Captain George H. Blair, chief of the field division of the land office at Salt Lake, Utah, will act as registrar.

About forty witnesses will be summoned, a large part of them from New York City.

FIRE AT BRATTLEBORO.

Charles Miner's Paint Shop Was Destroyed Yesterday.

Brattleboro, Feb. 11.—Charles Miner's large paint shop burned yesterday morning. The fire caught in the second story, by paint being near an over-heated stove pipe. The shop was full of wags, being painted which were destroyed, but part of the contents of the lower floor were saved. The loss is estimated at \$25,000, which is not covered by insurance.

AN UNUSUAL CASE.

Rutland Woman Granted a Release of Pension for Former Husband.

Rutland, Feb. 11.—A very unusual case has come before the local pension attorneys, that of Mrs. Charles E. Stevens of this city, who was twice married, being restored to the death of husband number two, a pension as widow of her first husband, which was taken away when she married the second time. Mrs. Stevens is 75 years old. There is a law making a restoration of this kind possible but not one widow in a thousand qualifies under it.

Mrs. Stevens' maiden name was Miss Helen D. Shattuck and she lived at St. Albans when she married Joseph A. Brainerd, later a member of company L, first Vermont cavalry. He died in Andersonville prison in September, 1864. The widow soon was granted a pension which was taken away when in 1873 at St. Albans she became the wife of Charles E. Stevens, a former St. Albans merchant, who died in this city last fall, aged 89 years. She has just received word that she has again been put on the pension rolls at \$15 per month.

CARNIVAL HANDICAPPED.

Various Cases Affect Success of Montreal Celebration.

Montreal, Feb. 11.—Capitalizing Canada's winter carnival has proved unprofitable for the citizens' committee which promoted the ice palace. On account of the expense there were no fireworks at the palace.

Circumstances combined to thwart the winter carnival's success this year. First, there was the typhoid epidemic, then

## ALFONSO OUTWITS PLOTTERS

Aims a Hard Blow at the Reactionaries